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EQUITY SOCIETY'S POSITION DEFINED.

Where A. S. of E. is Strongest no Violence Occurs.

President C. M. Barnett Ably Defends Society of Which he is the Head.

The following letter was sent to Hon. James P. Gregory, President of the Louisville Law and Order League accompanied by request that he have it read at the mass meeting held in Louisville last Sunday. It was not produced then and was given to the daily press Monday.

Hon. James P. Gregory, President Law & Order League, Louisville, Ky. Dear Sir:—In view of the fact that your organization is to hold a mass meeting in the City to-morrow afternoon, which I am unable to attend, and owing to the fact that the American Society of Equity, of which I have the honor to be the National President, has been made a target for abuse and misrepresentation, because of recent lawlessness in our State, I desire to submit, through you, to the meeting, a frank statement which should set our Society right with all fair minded persons.

This criticism of our Society arises from the fact that persons are misinformed as to the true situation, or from a wilful attempt to discredit it and its purposes.

The American Society of Equity is organized and chartered under the laws of Indiana, for charitable and educational purposes. It has a membership in forty (40) states and territories in the Union, being especially strong in the great wheat section of the North-west. In Kentucky, as will be seen from the official report of the National Secretary which was submitted to the National union held in Indianapolis last October, the membership the first of January this year, in good standing, was 18,049. The highest membership ever enjoyed by the Society in the State, as shown by the same report which is appended hereto and made a part of this letter, was 27,791.

There are 923 local unions each acting under a charter from the National Headquarters at Indianapolis. The 18,049 members are distributed over seventy-one (71) counties in only thirty-six (36) of which are strong enough to have a county organization, or county union, as will be seen by figure immediately opposite the counties representing number of unions. Forty-eight (48) counties in Kentucky have no members at all. These are in the mountains and in that part of the State known as the "Black Patch" and occupied by the Planters Protective Association. In thirty-two counties the membership is less than one hundred. In fourteen others it is less than three hundred. In the counties covered by the Burley Association we have about 7000 members, while the Burley Association claims over 30,000. In the Planters Protective Association territory, lying along the western borders of Kentucky and covering some territory in Tennessee, we have no membership while that organization claims 40,000 members.

In the stemmeling district our membership is about 3000, while the number of persons pooling in that locality will probably exceed 20,000. The Green River District has an Equity membership of about 6000, and probably not many more than that number pool their tobacco. It will be seen that the four tobacco associations contain about 100,000 adherents. Six times as many membership of the Society of Equity. Only one of these tobacco associations, the Green River, acts through this Society. It has no control or connection with the others, except as individual members of locals may pool with them. This Society has no control over the Boards of those societies and can not say to the Burley people you shall or shall not raise a crop or when they shall sell their pooled tobacco. These associations have their ownboards of control some of whom may be members of this Society. I do not think President, Lebus, is a member. Nor do I think Mr. Hawkins, who recently wrote the card which caused so much comment, is a member of our Society. Simply pooling a crop of tobacco with one of the tobacco associations, or signing an agreement not to raise a crop, does not give membership in the Society

of Equity, although the daily papers, the press dispatches and almost everyone not a member has treated it as such.

To become a member one must either sign as a charter member or have his application passed on by a local union, after paying a membership fee. He must pay yearly dues, or lose his membership. These local unions act under a constitution and by-laws. They meet, usually in the country school houses, or churches once a week or once a month. The meetings are open to the public. No pass words are used and almost invariably they are attended by the ladies, the wives, mothers

(Continued on Eighth Page.)

YOUNG MAN'S BODY FOUND IN ROUGH CREEK.

Death Resulted From Blow De-cided Corenors Jury.

Wednesday afternoon while on the creek near Black Hocker's Bluff, about four miles north east of Hartford, Horace Smith, William Lake and another gentleman whose name was not learned, found the body of a young man which has been identified as that of Estil St. Clair, floating in the creek.

They at once notified Judge W. B. Taylor, at Hartford, and as soon as the notice was received, Mr. A. D. White and others left in Mr. White's gasoline launch to bring the body to Hartford. They arrived with the body about four o'clock p. m. Wednesday, and the following jury, W. W. Pirtle, C. P. Keown, Dr. T. D. Renfrow, M. W. Barnard, W. A. Brown, J. T. Hudson, Ashford Mills, Bob Davis, J. K. Alvy, Wayne Ellis and Sam Ellis, after examination of the body returned the following verdict: We, the jury believe the unknown deceased came to his death by a blow on the mouth by some hard substance unknown to us.

The body was at once placed in a coffin and carried to the almshouse cemetery and interred. There was nothing on the body, except clothing and a pocketbook from which identification could be established, and until late in the evening after the body had been buried no one who had learned of the finding thereof had any idea who it was. Finally Steve Grigsby, after close examination of the pocketbook found on the body, decided it was the property of Estil St. Clair, and recalling his dress which consisted of a blue sweater, jumper, overcoat and yellow overalls, he was fully satisfied that it is that of young St. Clair.

About six weeks ago young Mr. Grigsby with a number of other men, including young St. Clair, left here on sawlogs being run by Mr. A. J. Williams to Evansville. On reaching Calhoun young St. Clair was not further needed and started on his return home, before leaving young Grigsby, he told him that he was coming back to Livermore and take the train there for Owensboro, and from Owensboro he intended coming back to his home at Dundee.

It is rumored, how true we are unable to state, that young St. Clair on reaching Owensboro, found some of Mr. Joe Funk's folks there with tobacco and came back with them to their home near Taffy, and stayed all night leaving the next morning for his home at Dundee. This was about the first of March. How he received the blow that ended his life if the theory of the coroner's jury is correct, is unexplained, or if he was drowned that too is likewise unexplained.

After the partial identification by Mr. Grigsby, Mr. St. Clair's folks were notified at Dundee, and they reported that the boy was still missing but on leaving home he had told them that he was going west from Evansville, and that they had suffered no uneasiness about his failing to return. They came to Hartford yesterday morning however, and after hearing a full description of the body and the manner of dress they were thoroughly convinced that it was their brotther whose body had been found in the river.

His body was disinterred late yesterday afternoon, and three brothers who were present and several neighbors and friends who had known the young man, all declared the body to be that of Estil St. Clair. The body was conveyed to his old home at Dundee, where interment will be had to-day. A deep mystery shrouds the whole affair, and its solution will be anxiously awaited.

A LITTLE MORE TIME GIVEN DELINQUENTS.

Postmaster M. L. Heavrin, Hartford, Ky.

Dear Sir:—In view of the fact that many of our subscribers have requested that we grant further time in which for them to settle their arrearage subscription with us, we hereby ask that, if it be in your power as postmaster, to grant such time, you give us and our patrons a few weeks longer in which to clear up our subscription list.

Yours very truly,

HARTFORD REPUBLICAN.

Hartford, Ky., March 31, 1908.

In accordance with this request Mr. Heavrin has granted us and those in arrears a few weeks more time to settle up. Please show your appreciation of our efforts by paying promptly.

SUPPOSED THAT HE FELL FROM TRAIN

Lifeless Body of Young Man Found at McHenry.

Was No Doubt "Stealing" a Ride On Through Freight and Fell Off.

Near McHenry last Sunday morning a colored man who had been to the house of a neighbor to sit up with sick folks, while crossing the I. C. railroad track near the store of Brown Mercantile Co., discovered the lifeless form of a man. The colored fellow was too scared to investigate his find, but went at once to secure aid. Other parties were summoned and investigations showed the dead body to be that of a young man or boy about sixteen years of age.

Physical examination showed that his neck was broken, and his position when found led the people to believe that the boy had fallen from the train. There was absolutely nothing on his person by which he could be identified and his name learned. He carried a small purse, in which were crumpled a few notes of "college script," used for money in transactions at business schools. Not a cent of money was in the purse. On the finger of one hand he wore a brass ring with the setting gone.

Judge Taylor was at once notified and arrived on the scene about 10 o'clock, summoned a jury and held an inquest. There was no evidence of a satisfactory character that in any manner showed how death resulted. The only evidence that in any way determined the cause of death was given by two miners who came out of the mines about 12 o'clock Saturday night while the fast freight train was standing on the track at McHenry. They stated that two boys who were walking along by the side of the train told them that one of their companions had fallen off the train just above there, and told them if they saw him for them to tell him that they (the boys) had gone on South, and for him to come on. This was all the evidence and being heard say, the jury returned the following verdict:

"We, the jury, find the unidentified boy, supposed to be about 15 years old, found in a ditch by the I. C. railroad, came to his death by unknown cause."

This was signed by the members of the jury, as follows: Guy Stateel, G. A. Ralph, D. W. Wakeland, J. W. Baker, R. T. Ross and J. M. Martin.

After the inquest the question of interment was discussed and it being the law that the county pay but \$5.00 for coffin furnished by it, it was suggested that better burial casket be provided. A public subscription was taken among those present and in just a few minutes the kind-hearted people contributed \$20. to supplement the \$5.00 paid by the county. At the suggestion of Judge Taylor the body was held until Monday morning and the fact of the boy's death was telegraphed to Louisville and intervening points.

This proved to be a good idea, for on Sunday night a man named John Calahan arrived on a train from Louisville and identified the body as that of his brother, Charlie Calahan. He said their parents are residents of Louisville, at 1232 Zane street.

Monday's Louisville Times says of the unfortunate affair: Word was received to-day by Peter Callahan, an employee of the L. and N. railroad, that the body of his fourteen-year-old son, Charles Callahan had been found at McHenry, Ky., beside the railroad tracks and would arrive in the city to-day.

The telegram was the first intima-

tion that the family of young Callahan had of his whereabouts since he left his home at 1232 Zane street last Friday. Accompanied by three companions the lad left his home and it is said was last seen boarding a freight train on the Illinois Central railroad. It is said that the intention of the boys was to go to St. Louis, stopping at Central City City for a few days.

So the unfortunate tragedy is yet to some extent a mystery but it is the general belief that the two miners report of it is the truth of the matter.

Estrayed.

One medium sized dark red cow, de-horned left horn about 1½ or 2 inches long medium coarse bell with leather collar. Any information will be liberally rewarded.

S. A. REYNOLD, McHenry.

4,000 HOGSHEADS OF EQUITY TOBACCO

From Green River District Sold, Which Leaves Only 2,000 Hogsheads of 1906 Crop.

Deals have been closed during the past week whereby the American Society of Equity of the Green River district has sold 4,000 hogsheads of the 1906 crop of tobacco through the Louisville Tobacco warehouse company. The price paid is supposed to have been the prevailing market price of tobacco. The buyers were mostly independent dealers and manufacturers. About 200 hogsheads of the tobacco were secured by an English firm. It is also understood that a portion of the tobacco was secured by the Regie buyers.

This sale practically cleared up the remaining trash of the association about 2,000 hogsheads. The remainder of the tobacco sold was made up of leaf and lugs. The society now has in the Louisville warehouse about 2,000 hogsheads.

S. B. Lee, secretary of the society, stated that the prospects were very favorable for the sale of the remainder 2,000 hogsheads in Louisville. Probably half of this tobacco will be sold in the next few days.

It has not been definitely ascertained what counties tobacco this sale includes but Ohio county tobacco put up at Beaver Dam has been sold recently and Mr. Williams is about ready to begin paying out the money.

JUMPED IN BED WITH MAN AND WIFE.

Aroused Household of Del Sawyer Before Daylight by Ringing The Farm Bell.

'Gene Moore, a negro who resides on the farm of Del Sawyer near the city, became crazed from some cause Sunday night, says the Henderson Journal. After acting in a very queer manner, he rushed over to another negro's home about 12 o'clock, and, entering the house, leaped into the bed where the man and his wife were asleep. He was made to make tracks at once by the frightened occupants. About 3 o'clock Monday morning Mr. Sawyer and his family were awakened by the ringing of the farm bell. On investigation, it was found that Moore was ringing it, claiming that breakfast was ready and he wished to arouse the family.

He continued to act in a queer way and Mr. Sawyer put him in a wagon and brought him to the city. Officer Bailey took charge of him, and the negro was tried by Judge Hart and adjudged insane. He will be sent to the asylum at Hopkinsville. Moore was arrested here a few days ago on the charge of drunkenness.

MINERS QUIT WORK WEDNESDAY

Operators in Bituminous Regions Failed to Renew.

Obstinacy of Operators May Lead To Big Tie Up In Five States.

The union miners in most of the soft coal fields of the country laid down their picks and shovels Wednesday night. Almost 250,000 of them stopped work in Ohio, Western Pennsylvania, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas and some in Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, West Virginia, and Kentucky.

The mining contracts under which they were working expired at midnight Wednesday and except in Central Pennsylvania and in the Indiana block coal district no new contracts have been made nor have the miners and operators yet entered into district agreements providing for the operation of the mines after April 1 pending agreement.

This is a possibility in the Indiana bituminous coal district in Illinois Michigan and West Virginia. The Indiana bituminous, Western Pennsylvania and Illinois miners and operators are in joint sessions at Terre Haute, Pittsburg and Springfield.

Technically the miners are out on strike but in reality they stopped work because the operators except in Indiana and Illinois, show no real intention of meeting and treating with them though no question of wage or principle is at stake.

J. Mitchell returned to Indianapolis Tuesday and is preparing to step out of office.

Vice President T. L. Lewis, who will succeed President Mitchell will announce his appointments when he takes office.

It is understood that Samuel Sexton, editor of the United Mine Workers Journal is to be retired and that possibly Chris Evans the official statistician, may be succeeded by a new appointee. Mr. Lewis, however has not given out any information concerning these changes.

Mr. Ryan the new Secretary-Treasurer, will bring with him from Illinois as his right-hand man Frank Hays, of Belleville.

Indiana coal miners and operators are in joint conference to endeavor to agree upon a wage scale. J. C. Kolsen of the operators, was selected as chairman. The miners' scale committee has not completed its work of formulating demands.

Both operators and miners believe that as soon as Vice President T. L. Lewis assumes the presidency of the United Mine Workers he will issue a call for an interstate conference to rehabilitate the interstate agreement.

Upon the request of the Scale Committee of the Kentucky Miners' Union the conference of the miners and operators adjourned last Friday afternoon until Tuesday, April 7, in order to allow the members of the committee to return to their homes and present the proposed scale for "shot firers" to their constituents. The sessions will reconvene at 9 o'clock Tuesday, April 7.

Until two years ago the bituminous coal mining wage of the country was based upon the agreement reached in the central competitive field, consisting of Illinois, Ohio, Indiana and Western Pennsylvania, and considered as a unit.

This system was broken two years ago, when President Mitchell signed a scale with Pittsburg operators, who agreed to pay the scale demanded after operators of other three States had refused, and the miners won their fight. In consequence, operators signed the scale individually throughout the country.

Since that time the miners have tried to get back the unit rule, or interstate agreement, but operators of Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois, after negotiations lasting all the past winter, have refused to meet in interstate convention with the miners.

As a last resort President Mitchell called the miners in national convention, and district settlements were authorized with the present wage scale as a minimum, and failing to agree by districts the miners were authorized to sign the present scale with operators individually.

West Virginia and Kentucky miners

and operators will continue operations, it is believed, pending a settlement.

Destructive Fire.

The residence of Mrs. Sallie Thomas, occupied by herself and son, Estill, on Madison street, in East Hartford, was destroyed by fire last Sunday morning about 9 o'clock. The origin of the fire is unknown. The flames were discovered by a neighbor while Mrs. Thomas was temporarily absent, and had gained such headway that nothing could be done to save the house or contents. The loss was total, with no insurance. Young Mr. Thomas had taken a nice \$20 suit of clothes home only the night before and this was also lost in the flames.

Sympathetic citizens of Hartford immediately started a subscription paper for the relief of Mrs. Thomas, and to help erect a new home. Everybody contributed liberally as is always the case with our people, and the Methodist Sunday school voted to donate next Sunday's offerings to the unfortunate lady.

CALEB POWERS IN CRITICAL CONDITION

Fever Unbroken and Prisoner is Losing Strength and Weight Daily.

Georgetown, Ky., March 30.—Friends of Caleb Powers are much alarmed over his condition, as he has gradually grown worse since the first press dispatches about his illness several days ago. His fever registered 101.2-5 at noon to-day and his pulse 86.

Weak and emaciated, a mere ghost of his former self Powers lies on his jail cot with his physician, Dr. J. E. Peck, in daily attendance. With no appetite and a disordered stomach, his vitality is giving way. Powers' friends are keeping a man with him day and night to administer his medicine and care for him. Dr. Peck to-day ordered all visitors barred except his brother-in-law W. H. Green, who has remained with him since the last trial.

FOR THE BUSY READER.

William J. Bryan says the Democratic banquet at Kansas City Monday night was the largest ever held in the United States.

Judge Redwine filed a petition for habeas corpus at Beattyville in an effort to secure bail for Beach Hargis, who killed his father, Judge James Hargis. The case will be heard at Jackson April 10.

The Marshall county grand jury yesterday returned eleven more indictments against alleged night riders making sixteen in all. These indictments are the result of the attack on negroes at Birmingham.

The Warner and Foraker bills for the restoration to duty of negro soldiers discharged without honor because of the affray at Brownsville, Tex., were defeated in the Senate Committee on Military Affairs by the votes of the five Democratic members who joined with the Republican opposition.

The time for sowing tobacco plants The time for sowing tobacco plant beds is about over and the leaders of the Burley Tobacco Society say that reports from the entire belt show that the plan to eliminate a crop this season is a success, and that but a small part of the usual crop will be planted.

The heavy rains have caused a flood in the rivers and creeks in Eastern and Central Kentucky. Three lives were lost in Mason county by the washing away of a house. Property was damaged to the extent of \$75,000 at Maysville. Lexington was swept by a storm which flooded cellars and rendered 100 persons homeless. The Kentucky Licking and Big Sandy rivers are at flood tide and the timber loss will be heavy.

For lighting matches on J. Pierpont Morgan's doorstep Robert W. Fusholler, a seaman, was fined \$1 in the night court of New York Monday night. Fusholler told a policeman, who found him on the financier's porch, that he was looking for the number. The butler, when summoned said the man had just been there applying for a job. In the man's pocket the police say they found a hypodermic syringe and a phial of morphine. Fusholler was arrested on the charge of disorderly conduct and promptly paid the \$1 fine.